



16<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **Advice to All Parents - Single case**

We have been advised by Public Health England that there have been two separate and unconnected confirmed cases of COVID-19 within the College.

Only one of these individuals was in College in the 48 hours prior to beginning with symptoms. The small number of children who have been in close contact with this individual have received a letter asking them to stay at home for 14 days.

We are in daily contact with Public Health England (PHE) regarding any possible link between cases in College and whether any further actions are required by College. PHE has confirmed there are no additional steps to be taken at this time, i.e. closing whole year group bubbles.

We know that you may find this concerning but we are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with Public Health England. This letter is to inform you of the current situation and provide advice on how to support your child. Please be reassured that for most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

**The College remains open and your child should continue to attend as normal if they remain well.**

### **What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19**

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they must not come to College and should remain at home for at least **10 days** from the date when their symptoms appeared. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for testing and this can be arranged via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

All other household members who remain well, must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble'.

Further information is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

The 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill.

Household members should not go to work, College or public areas and exercise should be taken within the home.

If you require help with buying groceries, other shopping or picking up medication, or walking a dog, you should ask friends or family. Alternatively, you can order your shopping online and medication by phone or online.

Household members staying at home for 14 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community

If you are able, move any vulnerable individuals (such as the elderly and those with underlying health conditions) out of your home, to stay with friends or family for the duration of the home isolation period.

### **Symptoms**



The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

**For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.**

If your child does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from the nhs.uk website at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/>. If you are concerned about your child's symptoms, or they are worsening you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://111.nhs.uk/> or by phoning 111.

### How to stop COVID-19 spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID-19

*Do*

- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wash your hands as soon as you get home
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards

### Further Information

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Thank you for your support at this difficult time.

Please contact the College in the usual way, via School Gateway or the Enquiries email ([enquiries@minsthorpe.cc](mailto:enquiries@minsthorpe.cc)) if you have any questions regarding the letter.

Please note the health advice given in this letter is provided by Public Health England.

Yours sincerely

Handwritten signature of Mr M Gilmore in black ink.

Mr M Gilmore  
Principal

Handwritten signature of Mrs R Merritt in black ink.

Mrs R Merritt  
Principal